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FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1829
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY
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AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY
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JTF SUPPORT HOPE KELLY BARRACKS GE//COS/JOC/J3//, PRIORITY
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USCINCCENT MACDILL AFB FL//CCJ3//
CINCUSACOM NORFOLK VA
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DRL/AAA
ALSO PASS NSC
NAIROBI FOR DART/RWANDA AND REFCOORD
ROME FOR FODAG

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E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: PREF, PREL, PHUM, MOPS, MASS, EAID, UN, RW, CG
SUBJECT: MGRW02: UNHCR WEEKLY RWANDA MEETING - JULY 27

1. SUMMARY: AT THE JULY 27 WEEKLY MEETING ON RWANDA, UNHCR STRESSED THAT THE MAJOR GAP AT GOMA IS THE LACK OF WATER TANKERS TO DISTRIBUTE THE INCREASING AMOUNTS OF CLEAN WATER BEING PRODUCED. TANKERS ARE ALSO NEEDED TO SUPPORT THE RETURN ROUTE TO RWANDA. AMONG THE UNMET SERVICE PACKAGES PREVIOUSLY APPEALED FOR, UNHCR IS PLACING PRIORITY ON DONOR SUPPORT FOR SITE PREPARATION, LATRINES, SANITATION AND BURIALS, WITH A SPECIFIC REQUEST TO THE USG FOR BURIAL ASSISTANCE AT SIX SITES.

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AT BUKAVU THE 300,000 TO 320,000 REFUGEES ARE IN BETTER CONDITION THAN AT GOMA AND CHOLERA HAS BEEN CHECKED, BUT SPACE CONSTRAINTS MAKE IT DIFFICULT TO FIND SITES. AS AT GOMA, WATER TANKERS ARE A PRIORITY, AS WELL AS DISARMAMENT OF THE HUTU MILITARY. WFP ALSO UNDERLINED THE NEED FOR TRUCKS, NOTING THAT EVEN THE INADEQUATE LEVEL OF FOOD BEING DELIVERED COULD NOT BE DISTRIBUTED WITHOUT MORE TRUCKS. DHA U/SYG HANSEN IS EXPECTED TO ARRIVE IN GENEVA ON JULY 29 FOLLOWING HIS TRIP TO THE REGION TO ESTABLISH AN OVERALL STRATEGY, WHICH WILL FOCUS ON RETURN. U.S. REP STRESSED THE NEED FOR INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION ON THE SITUATION INSIDE RWANDA AND CALLED FOR INCLUSION OF FUNDING FOR HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORS IN THE CONSOLIDATED APPEAL. END SUMMARY.

2. AT THE WEEKLY UNHCR MEETING ON RWANDA (CHAIRER BY DEPUTY UNHCR GERALD WALZER) UNHCR ANNOUNCED THAT TWO UNHCR EMERGENCY TEAMS HAVE ARRIVED IN SOUTH KIVU AND THAT TWELVE UNHCR STAFF HAVE BEEN SENT TO KIGALI TO DEPLOY OUTSIDE THE CAPITAL AND PREPARE FOR RETURNEES. HE ALSO ANNOUNCED UNHCR MRS. OGATA'S PLAN TO TRAVEL TO KIGALI ON SATURDAY, THEN ON TO GOMA AND TO RETURN TO GENEVA BY AUGUST 2.

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3. UNHCR EMPHASIZED THAT NOT ONLY WAS ITS CAPACITY BEING STRETCHED BEYOND ALL IMAGINABLE LIMITS, BUT THAT IT WAS DEALING WITH LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE THAT WAS NEAR THE BREAKING POINT, CITING THE INADEQUACY OF THE GOMA LANDING STRIP AND THE SHORTAGE OF AVIATION FUEL IN THE REGION. THE PRIORITY AT GOMA IS STILL WATER, THOUGH WITH POTABLE WATER PRODUCTION IMPROVING THE MORE URGENT

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NEED IS FOR WATER TANKERS FOR DISTRIBUTION.

4. IN SOUTH KIVU THE MAJOR PROBLEM IS FINDING APPROPRIATE SITES. BUKAVU WAS ALREADY A CROWDED POPULATION CENTER, AND THERE ARE NO ROADS TO MOVE THE 300,000 TO 320,000 REFUGEES AWAY FROM THE CITY. INITIALLY 14 SITES HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED BETWEEN 11 AND 100 KM FROM BUKAVU. CHOLERA AND WATER PURIFICATION DO NOT POSE MAJOR PROBLEMS, AND THE TOP RELIEF PRIORITY IS WATER TANKERS FOR DISTRIBUTION, WITH NEEDS ALSO FOR SHELTER, TRUCKS, MEDICINES, SITE PLANNERS, AND IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS. THE OTHER PRIORITY

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IS DISARMAMENT OF RWANDA ARMY ELEMENTS, WHICH CONTINUE TO OPERATE ARMED VEHICLES. AS A RESULT, PRIORITY REPATRIATION IS BEING CONSIDERED FOR TUTSIS IN SOUTH KIVU, AND NORTH KIVU AS WELL.

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5. WITHIN RWANDA, UNHCR SENT THE FIRST TWO FLIGHTS INTO KIGALI JULY 27 AND IS DEVELOPING PLANS FOR WAY STATIONS ON THE MAJOR REPATRIATION ROUTES. HERE AGAIN THE NEEDS ARE FOR WATER TANKERS FOR THE RETURNEES, PLUS BASIC FEEDING AND MEDICAL ACTIVITIES.

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6. AT THE MEETING UNHCR DISTRIBUTED AN ORGANAGRAM OF ITS NEW SPECIAL UNIT FOR RWANDA AND BURUNDI, WITH AUGUSTINE MAHIGA AS COORDINATOR AND JIDDO VAN DRUNEN AS HEAD OF THE OPERATIONAL UNIT. IT ALSO BROKE DOWN ITS FUNDING NEEDS INTO THREE CATEGORIES - THE EIGHT SERVICES PACKAGES, CASH AND IN-KIND. DONOR OFFERS IN RESPONSE TO THE REQUEST FOR SERVICE PACKAGES INCLUDE THE USG OFFER FOR THE AIRPORT SERVICE PACKAGE, PART OF THE LOGISTICS BASE SERVICES, MANAGEMENT OF THE AIRHEAD, AND WATER MANAGEMENT; THE GERMAN OFFER ALSO ON WATER SERVICES AND SANITATION; THE CANADIAN OFFER FOR KIGALI AIRPORT, AND THE SWEDISH OFFER TO HELP WITH SITE PREPARATION, LOGISTICS, SANITATION AND WATER AT ONE SITE (NOT SPECIFIED). THE SERVICE PACKAGES FOR ROAD SERVICING, DOMESTIC FUEL, AND SANITATION NEED ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTORS. IN ADDITION, UNHCR IS AWAITING A RESPONSE TO ITS REQUEST TO THE USG FOR BULLDOZERS, SMALL TRUCKS AND SUPERVISORS AT EACH OF SIX BURIAL SITES.

7. THE UNHCR CASH REQUEST FOR RWANDA AND BURUNDI OF USD 258 MILLION FOR RWANDA/BURUNDI (USD 115 MILLION FOR EASTERN ZAIRE) HAS RECEIVED USD 97 MILLION SINCE JANUARY 1. AVAILABLE FUNDS ARE NOW USD 6 MILLION, WITH UNHCR EXPECTING TO RECEIVE 35 MILLION ECU FROM THE FIRST TRANCHE OF THE EU 150 MILLION ECU CONTRIBUTION. JAPAN HAS ANNOUNCED A CONTRIBUTION OF USD 20 MILLION. IN KIND CONTRIBUTIONS SHOULD BE GIVEN AGAINST LISTS TO BE PROVIDED DAILY BY UNHCR.

8. UNHCR ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT IT UNDERSTOOD THAT THE

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EQUIPMENT FOR RADIO MILLES COLLINES HAD BEEN HANDED OVER
TO THE NEW GOVERNMENT AND THAT UNESCO IS FUNDING A NEW
STATION FOR THE GOVERNMENT. WITH TWO FM AND ONE
SHORT-WAVE TRANSMITTER, THE NEW STATION SHOULD BE ABLE
TO COVER RWANDA AND REACH THE REFUGEES.

9. WFP ANNOUNCED THAT IT HAS RECEIVED PLEDGES OF
194,000 TONS AGAINST THE 313,000 TONS REQUESTED. IT IS
NOW GETTING 200 TONS/DAY INTO GOMA, AND WITHIN TWO WEEKS
IT SHOULD REACH THE DAILY TARGET OF 600 TONS AS GREATER
RELIANCE IS PLACED UPON TRUCKING, WITH AN EXPECTED FLEET
OF 150-200 TRUCKS. HOWEVER, EVEN AT THE CURRENT REDUCED
LEVEL, THE SUPPLY OF FOOD IS OUTPACING THE ABILITY TO

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DELIVER IT. TRUCKS ARE NEEDED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. IN
ADDITION, WFP IS HELPING TO SUPPORT THE RETURN BY
DROPPING OFF FOOD ON THE RETURN ROUTE AS ITS TRUCKS HEAD
FOR GOMA. FOR BUKAVU, WFP NOTED THAT ONLY 150 TONS WERE
AVAILABLE FOR 300,000 TO 320,000 REFUGEES, WITH THE
PRIORITY BEING BUILDING UP THE TRUCKING CAPACITY FROM
BUJUMBURA. SO FAR, WFP HAS BORROWED 19,000 METRIC TONS
FROM FOOD INTENDED FOR ANGOLA, KENYA AND UGANDA.

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10. THE DHA REP STATED THAT U/SYG HANSEN WAS IN RWANDA
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TO REFINE THE OVERALL HUMANITARIAN STRATEGY AND THAT HE
WOULD ARRIVE IN GENEVA ON FRIDAY. THE STRATEGY WILL
FOCUS ON ACCELERATING THE RETURN OF REFUGEES, WITH
INITIAL REPORTS INDICATING THAT THE NEW GOVERNMENT WAS
FULLY SUPPORTIVE AND WOULD NOT SCREEN RETURNEES,
ALTHOUGH IT WILL PROSECUTE THOSE GUILTY IN THE MASSACRES.

11. DHA DIVIDES THE COUNTRY INTO ESSENTIALLY TWO ZONES
WITH DIFFERENT PROBLEMS. IN THE EASTERN 80 PERCENT UN
AGENCIES AND NGOS CAN WORK AND ARE RETURNING. IN THE
WEST TWO ASSESSMENT MISSIONS HAVE BEEN SENT TO GISENYI
IN THE LAST THREE DAYS TO DETERMINE THE REHABILITATION
NEEDED TO SUPPORT RETURN. RETURN HAS ALREADY BEGUN FROM
THE 150,000 DISPLACED IN KIBUYE. IN THE FRENCH ZONE,
THE 600,000 AT GIKONGORO AND CYANGUGU ARE RELATIVELY
STABLE. THE UN COORDINATION OFFICE IN NAIROBI WILL SOON
MOVE TO KIGALI, TO BE AUGMENTED BY A SWEDISH TEAM OF 12
WITH COMMUNICATIONS AND VEHICLES TO ASSIST THE OFFICE.

12. UNICEF REPORTED THAT IT HAS 42 INTERNATIONALS IN
RWANDA, INCLUDING 15 IN GOMA, WHO INCLUDE CHOLERA
EXPERTS FROM UNICEF'S OPERATIONS IN SOMALIA. UNICEF IS
PLANNING TO STRENGTHEN ITS PRESENCE IN RWANDA, INCLUDING
SUPPORT FOR WAY STATIONS ON THE RETURN FROM GOMA,
STOCKPILING IN THE SOUTHWEST, AND MOVING ITS
HEADQUARTERS TO KIGALI AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. UNICEF
REPORTED 100,000 UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN IN GOMA.

13. USG REP ANNOUNCED THE CURRENT USG CONTRIBUTIONS AND
STRESSED THE NECESSITY OF INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION,
ESPECIALLY FOR OPERATIONS INSIDE RWANDA INCLUDING
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UNHCR'S SUPPORT FOR RETURNEES. HE ALSO URGED THAT
FUNDING FOR HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORS IN RWANDA BE INCLUDED
IN THE CONSOLIDATED APPEAL.

14. THE GERMAN DEL SUPPORTED THE CALL FOR INTER-AGENCY
COORDINATION, UNDERLINED THE IMPORTANCE OF UNHCR

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PROVIDING GUIDANCE ON THE GROUND TO THOSE DONORS
PROVIDING SERVICE PACKAGES, AND REPORTED THAT THE FIRST
OF GERMANY'S 17 WATER PURIFICATION PLANTS WAS INSTALLED
ON JULY 25.

15. THE FRENCH DEL MADE A PLEA FOR MORE AGENCIES TO
BECOME ACTIVE IN ITS HUMANITARIAN ZONE, NOTING THAT ONLY

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WFP AND ICRC ARE PRESENT.

16. UNHCR RESPONDED TO THE REQUEST FOR INTER-AGENCY
COORDINATION BY NOTING THAT IT WOULD HAVE TO COOPERATE
WITH OTHER AGENCIES TO MEET THE MASSIVE NEEDS INSIDE
RWANDA, BUT ALSO STRESSED ITS CLEAR PROTECTION ROLE FOR
RETURNEES, WHICH GOES WELL BEYOND MATERIAL ASSISTANCE.
UNHCR WILL PROVIDE COMMUNITY-FOCUSSED ASSISTANCE AND
WANTS TO ENSURE THAT OTHER AGENCIES ADDRESS THE
POST-RELIEF ASPECTS OF THE CONTINUUM. IN FACT, UNHCR IS

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SENDING AN EMERGENCY TEAM TO RWANDA ON JULY 30 TO ASSESS
REQUIRMENTS TO SUPPORT RETURN. UNHCR NOTED THAT THERE

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WAS ALREADY A GOOD COORDINATION STRUCTURE IN PLACE IN
GOMA CHAIRED BY UNHCR AND WFP, WHICH INCLUDED DONORS AND
NGOS AND WHICH HAD ESTABLISHED SUB-COMMITTEES IN THE
WATER, SITE, SANITATION AND HEALTH SECTORS.
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